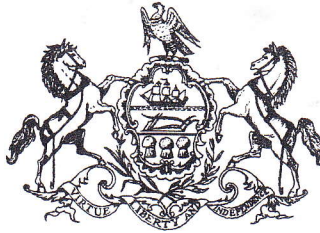


EDWARD G. STABACK, MEMBER
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MEMORANDUM

House of Representatives COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA HARRISBURG

DATE: January 11, 2011

RE: Reintroduction of Legislation (former HB 2233)

TO: All House Members

FROM: Representative Ed Staback

ES

In the near future I will reintroduce legislation that will make several changes to Title 30 (Fish). Most of these changes are technical in nature. They all have the support of the Commission. **This proposal was introduced as House Bill 2233 during the 2009-10 Legislative Session.** The changes include the following:

1. My bill will make a change in the definition of "fishing" to include activities on land, since the definition of fish includes reptiles and amphibians, many of which spend little, if any, time in the water.
2. This measure changes language within Title 30 that erroneously states that a 2/3 vote of the Senate is needed to confirm an appointee to the Fish and Boat Board of Commissioners. In actuality, according to the Administrative Code of 1929 and past practices, a majority vote of senators is all that is needed, which is the same as with appointments to the Game Commission Board of Commissioners.
3. Training of Deputy Waterway Conservation Officers is changed by allowing, as a substitute for the Lethal Weapons Training Act, specific equivalent training as determined by the Executive Director. In some instances, current law enforcement officers have applied to be a deputy and, even though they have much more certified training programs for their profession, they were forced to complete a lesser degree of training to fulfill the requirements of becoming a Deputy Waterway Conservation Officer.
4. My bill adds the phrase "or lands within this Commonwealth" to the provision mandating proper licenses since "fish" include land dwellers.
5. Institutional Licenses are redefined to allow many more facilities to have access to institutional licenses to provide fishing as a therapeutic opportunity.

6. Exceptions from license requirements are addressed. This section will provide for an exception for fishing licenses to participate in a structured educational program involving fishing. The new language is broader and allows for more schools and other organizations to qualify for exceptions.
7. The use of gill nets is prohibited. All related provisions in Title 30 are already out of date; this is a cleanup provision.
8. The bill, through renaming and technical provisions, allows nonprofits to operate temporary fishing ponds for fund-raising with a substantially reduced permit fee.
9. A provision is included that makes it clear which boating safety certificates are acceptable for nonresidents coming to boat in Pennsylvania.
10. A technical change is made to the section of Title 30 regarding refusal to submit to chemical testing. There is presently an error in wording within a section; this bill makes the needed technical correction.
11. And finally, the bill makes a purely editorial change regarding boats and registration by changing the word "license" to "registration."

If you would like to cosponsor this legislation please contact Julie at 783-5043 or e-mail jfoley@pahouse.net.